

Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending March 26, 2006

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending March 26, 2006**. Wet conditions across the state have affected the planting of many fields. Before the rain arrived, early varieties of soybean planting had begun. Corn planting is progressing well and emergence rates are looking good. The demand for hay in March increased due to cooler temperatures and a decline in grass growth. The rains that fell during the week, along with the forecast of warmer temperatures, should help to improve grass growth. Soil moisture was rated 15 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 34 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	33	--	--	21	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	12	--	--	3					
Soybeans	Planted	1	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	52	--	--	38	0	3	46	47	4
	Heading	1	--	--	--					
Cattle						2	11	41	31	15
Pasture						10	20	38	24	8
Hay Supply						Short	Adequate	Surplus		
						54	44	2		
Feed Grain						0	100	0		

County Agent Comments

"Most everyone is ready to start planting beans when it dries up. A few beans have already been planted and some have emerged. Producers will finish planting corn when they get back in the field."

— Quitman, Mack Young

"Lime was applied to many fields earlier in the week before the rain set in. No field work occurred in the latter part of the week and most burndown applications have been applied and are responding well for the most part."

— Tallahatchie, Jimbo Burkhalter

"Producers are applying burndown herbicides and preparing fields to plant."

— Benton, Melvin Oatis

"Farmers are finishing up pre-planting fieldwork. A recent cold snap has delayed corn planting, but it should commence in a week or two."

— Alcorn, Patrick Poindexter

"Three inches of rain over the weekend has producers at a stand-still. Cold temps this week have stunted winter wheat and pastures. Producers are applying lime and some fertilizers to pastures."

— Tippah, Tim Needham

"Colder days and nights have slowed growth on wheat. Corn that has been planted has emerged but will suffer if frost bites off the tops."

— Sunflower, Tommy Baird

“Sweet Potato bedding is almost complete. Deer are causing concern by damaging the beds. The cool temps have also caused internal breakdown of mother roots.”

— Chickasaw, Bill Burdine, Ph.D.

“Frost conditions are in effect. The biggest concerns are for vegetable producers, but those plants on black plastic will have a good chance of survival.”

— Greene, Mark Gillie

“Rainfall and below normal temperatures delayed planting of corn and soybeans. Freezing temperatures may have damaged more mature wheat.”

— Pontotoc, Jay Phelps

“This week has been too wet for any fieldwork. Some of the early planted corn has emerged. A limited acreage of soybeans have been planted. Those soybeans planted during the week of March 6 have emerged.”

— Leflore, Jerry Singleton

“Winter weed treatments and some fertilization of pastures are taking place. Grass is beginning to take off along with winter weeds. Limited row crop fieldwork was conducted with the break in rain, but cooler temperatures have slowed farmers’ urge to turn soil. Some home gardeners have jumped the gun and planted tomatoes, only to cover them up the last four nights in a row. Some fruit buds were also lost due to frosts this week; the extent of damage is still uncertain. More moisture is in the forecast for this week and should slow spring field preparation efforts.”

— Oktibbeha, Ed Williams

“It is getting dry on ryegrass. Grass is short due to cold nights and dry conditions.”

— Jasper, Tommy Bishop

“Ryegrass pastures are growing enough to stay ahead of cattle. Summer perennial grasses are coming out of dormancy. Cattle are looking better and milking more. Several morning frosts have killed some early-planted tomatoes.”

— Jones, Chuck Grantham

“Rains during the week stopped most field activity. Ryegrass was responding to warmer temperatures but last week's colder night-time temperatures slowed the growth rate. Winds have prevented herbicide applications on winter grazing and no-till crop land.”

— Newton, Victor Lee

“Recent rainfall has helped to provide moisture needed for field preparation and planting. The lack of moisture has slowed planting in the county. Moisture levels in the county have been extremely low all winter. Producers are completing the process of replacing fences and removing debris.”

— Perry, Florieda K. Mason

“Wet soil continues to keep farmers out of the fields. Very little corn has been planted. Many of the cattle farmers are complaining that ryegrass just hasn't performed this year; they say it's "sorry." On average, cattle are in good condition. Blueberries have received an adequate chilling hour and are in full bloom. One grower stated that they have first-stage berries this early in the season. Some watermelons have been planted, but I believe they will have to replant. Soils are cool for germination of crops.”

— Wayne, Allen McReynolds

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, Director**

Weather Summary from March 20, 2006 to March 26, 2006 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Cleveland	57	32	44	55	-11	2.38	+1.12	3	3.85				
Lambert	56	29	43			1.73	+0.47	2	3.21				
Tunica	55	32	43	55	-12	2.13	+0.80	3	4.41				
Extreme/Average	57	29	43	56	-13	2.08	+0.75	3					
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	56	25	42	55	-13	1.94	+0.61	3	3.77				
Hickory Flat	56	24	41	53	-12	2.01	+0.61	2	3.65				
Independence	53	25	40	54	-14	2.40	+1.21	2	3.66				
Oxford	58	25	42	54	-12	1.86	+0.53	3	3.88				
Extreme/Average	58	24	41	55	-14	2.05	+0.69	3	3.88				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	62	32	45	54	-9	2.03	+0.59	2	3.71				
Iuka	55	21	40	51	-11	1.53	+0.01	2	2.82				
Ripley	55	24	40	53	-13	2.00	+0.60	2	3.76				
Tupelo	60	29	44			2.18		2	2.58				
Verona				55		1.58	+0.23	2	3.18				
Extreme/Average	62	21	42	55	-13	1.94	+0.50	2	3.43				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	57	34	46	58	-12	2.47	+1.07	3	5.87				
Rolling Fork	60	33	46	57	-11	3.19	+1.74	2	4.82				
Stoneville	58	34	45	57	-12	3.24	+1.91	3	5.15				
Yazoo City	58	33	46	59	-13	2.90	+1.32	2	4.53				
Extreme/Average	60	33	46	58	-12	2.95	+1.52	3	5.07				
5. Central													
Canton	58	29	44	59	-15	1.42	+0.02	3	3.58				
Carthage	58	29	46	58	-12	2.60	+1.20	2	4.06				
Eupora	57	25	43	55	-12	2.05	+0.51	3	4.20				
Lexington				57					1.07				
Extreme/Average	58	25	44	57	-13	2.02	+0.55	3					
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	59	28	45	55	-10	1.73	+0.32	3	3.35				
Houston				55		0.55	-0.93	1	2.47				
Philadelphia	62	30	48	58	-10	2.92	+1.47	2	3.30				
State University	60	31	47	56	-9	2.15	+0.75	2	3.90				
Extreme/Average	62	28	47	57	-10	2.27	+0.80	2	3.35				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	63	32	49	60	-11	1.95	+0.55	2	3.85				
Natchez	65	30	49	61	-12	2.62	+1.03	3	4.14				
Oakley	59	32	49	58	-9	2.80	+1.32	2	4.45				
Vicksburg	59	35	48			4.00		2	5.94				
Extreme/Average	65	30	49	60	-11	2.84	+1.31	2	4.75				
8. South-Central													
Collins	67	31	51	59	-8	1.02	-0.49	1	2.32				
Columbia	77	34	53	60	-7	2.42	+0.91	2	3.04				
Tylertown	78	31	53	61	-8	1.77	+0.37	2	2.28				
Extreme/Average	78	31	52	60	-8	1.74	+0.25	2	2.32				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.60		1	2.24				
Hattiesburg	74	32	53	61	-8	1.20	-0.27	1	2.29				
Laurel	72	34	52	59	-7	2.15	+0.75	1	3.22				
Newton	63	34	49	57	-8	4.14	+2.67	2	6.09				
Extreme/Average	74	32	51	59	-8	2.50	+0.99	1	4.66				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	80	38	57	63	-6	0.06	-1.27	1	0.06				
Pascagoula 3NE				60		0.05	-1.33	1	0.05				
Picayune				61		0.10	-1.37	1	0.10				
Extreme/Average	80	38	57	62	-5	0.07	-1.38	1					
State	80	21	47	58	-11	2.13	+0.68	2	3.99				

DFN = Departure from Normal.